

**FEATURE** COUPLES COLD TO THE  
IDEA OF SECOND KID P.2

**MUSIC** BEIJING'S BAND 'MR. ODD'  
IS APTLY NAMED P.3

**TRAVEL** THE RARE COLLECTIONS OF  
PRIVATE MUSEUMS P.6

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# BEIJING TODAY

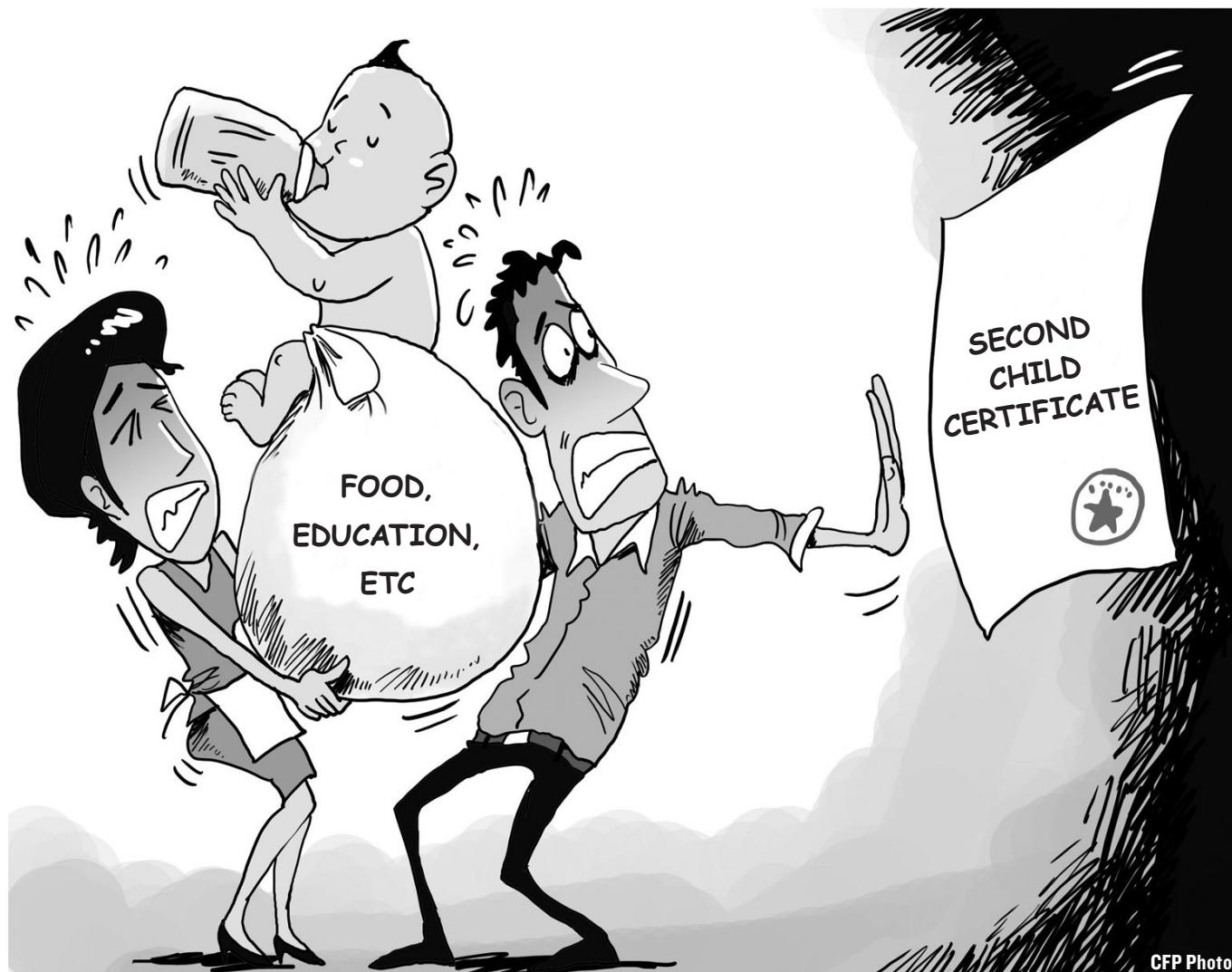
## TRADITIONS MEET IN GONGBI

AFTER YEARS OF TRAVELING EUROPE,  
ZOU QIAN IS A MASTER OF ADAPTING WESTERN  
TECHNIQUES TO THE CHINESE BRUSH P.4





# FEATURE STORY



# Couples Still Cold to China's Second Child Policy

BY DIAO DIAO

**A**fter 30 years of single-child families, the government finally decided to relax its rigid family planning policy last year. But statistics from 2013-2014 suggest the "One-Child Policy" may have worked too well, with few eligible couples showing any interest in having a second baby.

## One Child Policy

In 1980, Xinhua released the first forecast of Chinese population growth in more than 100 years. Based on then current birthing patterns, the agency estimated the national population would swell to more than 1.4 billion people by 2000 and 2 billion people by 2050.

Scrambling to prevent societal collapse, the government passed a national family

planning policy that would limit Chinese families to one child and hold the national population below 1.2 billion.

In addition, the policy also required families to submit to more checkups to ensure that their lone heir would be born without any mental or physical disabilities.

The policy included a clause stating that families in which both the mother and father were single children could have a second child. In the 1980s it seemed like a novel addition, as such families were extraordinarily uncommon.

To encourage compliance, families were offered money, extended maternity leave and medical reimbursement.

While the family planning policy has been extremely effective at slowing population growth and relieving pressure on Chi-



Pre-natal photo shoots often include the first child.

na's limited natural resources, it has caused as many problems as it solved.

Economist Chen Yongchang stated in 2007 that the policy had caused a severe imbalance in gender and an aging population.

"China will be dominated by the elderly, and that will cause many family and social problems as lone couples are expected to care for four elderly people without any aid," Chen said.

A survey by the National Bureau of Statistics in January found that more than 15 percent of the national workforce is older than 60. By the year 2050, more than a quarter of the workforce will be made up of the elderly. The national workforce contracted by 2.44 million people last year.

Another survey by Chinese Academy of Social Science found that more than 1 mil-

lion families have been left without heirs due to the loss of their only child.

## New Policy

Last year, the Standing Committee of the National Party Congress approved a policy change that allowed families in which either parent is a single child to have a second baby.

Employers of both parents are required to sign off on a form approving the birth.

But far fewer young parents have applied for this certificate than the government expected.

The National Board of Health and Family Planning said there have been 2 million babies born each year since the policy change. But while more than 11 million couples are qualified to have a second child, only 700,000 have applied for permission.

In a poll of 1 million couples in Liaoning province, less than 1 percent said they would want a second child.

The revised family planning policy has only taken effect in a few cities. But many scholars say that the lack of interest in larger families may require policy makers to accelerate the program's expansion.

Lu Jiehua, a professor of social science at Peking University, said that reduced birth rates reflect a fundamental shift in how Chinese people view families.

In cities, the sky-high prices of food and housing have made many modern families rethink the need for children. Since young parents don't plan to rely on their child when they grow old, most see no point in having more than one baby.

A 31-year-old project manager named Wenting said she and her husband have no interest in having one child, let alone two. They have been married for six years.

Another 35-year-old mom named Zichen said she wouldn't want to shift her focus to a new child and leave her 8-year-old daughter to feel ignored. "Chinese people think that the elder child should take care of the younger, but I couldn't bear asking my daughter to give up something for a younger kid," she said.

Favoritism is another concern.

One mother posting under the name "themarine" said parents can't help but favor the prettier, smarter or more considerate child. "We might not realize that we do it, but the children can feel it and it will have a bad psychological effect," she said.

Shi Yang, a high school English teacher in Beijing, said she feels that women's role in society has changed and that women are even more competitive than men.

"I'm teaching seniors who are preparing to take the college entrance examination. I work 12 hours a day and don't think I have time to take care of two kids," she said.

Among the many reasons that people don't want a second child, the high cost may be the most influential.

The mother of one 8-year-old boy in Nanjing estimated that it costs more than 380,000 yuan to raise one child from birth to college. That does not include the costs of travel and unexpected medical expenses.

Others said that they couldn't bear the pain of giving birth and were afraid to try again.

The few who wanted a second son or daughter said the child would make a good playmate for their current one. ■


**MUSIC**


Photos by Mr. Odd

# 'Odd' Band Plays Odd Music

BY DIAO DIAO

**I**t has been a rough first year for Mr. Odd. In less than 10 months since its founding the indie band has already been through two lineup changes.

A friend who previewed one of the band's early rehearsals coined its name. When asked what he thought of their sound, the friend gave a quick one-word reply: "Odd."

The name stuck both for its simplicity and its accuracy.

While each song sounds incredibly odd when heard alone, Mr. Odd's music takes on cohesion when heard in order. The more you listen the more you can pick out subtle changes in the melodies.

Mr. Odd has performed 29 times in the five months since settling on their current lineup.

The group's most popular song has been "Xiaosao," written by Liu Peizheng based on his personal experience of breaking up with his ex-girlfriend on his mother's birthday. The lyrics are simple and tell a story of the longing and catharsis

that follow a relationship.

For each song the band writes, the members sit down and consider whether it can be compared to something by a mainstream artist like Eric Clapton or Cold Play. Songs that don't sound "odd" enough get tossed out, says guitarist Yao Shunyu.

Unsurprisingly, it's hard to pin down Mr. Odd's style. The group's songs combine elements of pop, rock and blues without fitting into any such genre. Liu Peizheng composes all the songs with musical input from the other members.

Like most indie band members, the players spend the majority of their day at decidedly non-musical work.

Liu is a copywriter at an advertising company. "I have to thank my parents. It's because of them that I can play music while I work," Liu says.

Liu started learning musical instruments from a young age. Like many indie artists he gravitated toward the guitar

and participated in many musical competitions during middle school.

Yao, the other founding member of Mr. Odd, works as an accountant. "Someone once told me that when you like a chorus, you can't just play it. You have to think about why you like it," Yao says. "That left a big impression on me. We play music, but we can't be played by music."

Drummer Neng Jianjun is a senior in college and bassist Guo Liwei is a junior. Mr. Odd's performance at the Luwei Music Festival in Handan, Hebei province was their first time with the band.

The band is big on presentation, and their stage shows often involve poking fun at each other. Neng always says the band was actually named "Mr. Odd" because Liu himself looks odd.

The members are currently writing more songs and working on their cohesion so they will be prepared to rock a bigger stage next year. ■



Neng Jianjun



Yao Shunyu



Guo Liwei



Liu Peizheng

## LIVE SHOW ROUNDUP

Beijing boasts one of the world's most vibrant indie music scenes. Support our local artists with a trip to one of this week's live performances!

### The Raveonettes @Tango

The Raveonettes are a Danish indie rock duo, with Sune Rose Wagner on guitar and vocals, and Sharin Foo on bass, guitar and vocals. Their music is characterized by close two-part vocal harmonies inspired by The Everly Brothers coupled with hard-edged electric guitar. It's a sound that juxtaposes the structural and chordal simplicity of '50s and '60s rock with intense electric instrumentation, driving beats and dark lyrical content similar to The Velvet Underground.

- ⌚ November 22, 8-9:30 pm
- 📍 79 Hepingli Xi Jie, Dongcheng
- 💰 350 yuan at door (280 yuan pre sale)

### Muma 15th anniversary @Yugong Yishan

It has been 15 years since the founding of indie rock band Muma. The group has been on a national tour this year to celebrate the anniversary. Beijing is the last stop of the tour, and is sure to be an amazing final show. Muma has taken part in many commercial activities and endorsement but still manages to cling to its indie spirit.

- ⌚ November 22, 9 pm
- 📍 3-2 Zhangzizhong Lu, Dongcheng
- 💰 100 yuan at door (80 yuan pre sale)



### Wang Juan @Slow Living

Wang Juan is a folk singer with a unique personality and more than a decade of experience. Her songs are soulful and loaded with clean emotion. In 2004, Wang was invited by CCTV to introduce her life and music on one of the station's programs. She has cooperated with directors to provide songs for numerous TV series.

- ⌚ November 22, 8:30-10:30 pm
- 📍 73 Daxing Hutong, Dongcheng
- 💰 40 yuan

### Mr. Honey @Lanxi Bar

Mr. Honey is a group of nostalgic musicians who love romance. They long for a life of freedom and Broadway style performance. In spite of their youth, the members compose many nostalgic songs.

- ⌚ November 22, 9:30-11:30 pm
- 📍 183 Jiugulou Dajie, Xicheng
- 💰 40 yuan



# ARTISTS



A Bloom Time

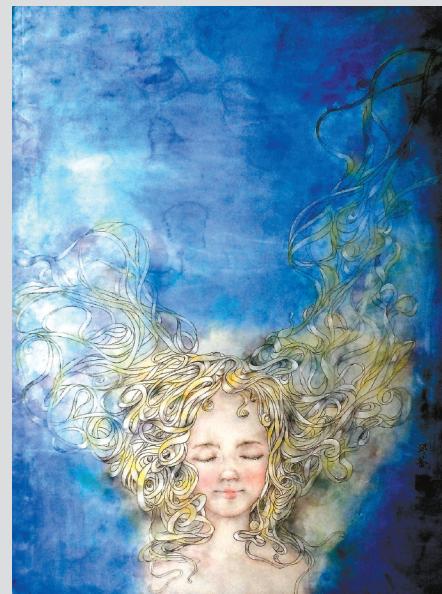


Xian

Photos by Zou Quan



Jimiduo



Present from Eden



Tentacle of Dream

# Crossing Barriers With a Brush

## Zou Quan's New Chinese Painting

BY LYNNE WANG

**W**hether the language of painting should keep pace with the times or stick to its conventions has been a big question for Chinese artists. The emerging artist Zou Quan's work could be an interesting answer to the dilemma.

In her latest exhibition at Today Art Museum, Zou showed off *Present from Eden*, an ink wash painting that invites viewers into a dreamy and romantic world. Unlike the freestyle and beauty of traditional wash paintings, Zou's work adopts a modern spirit and elements of Western art.

With an attention to light and structure presented through gongbi brushwork, Zou's creations walk a fine line between East and West.

"Traditional culture is something we are exposed to throughout our education, but it's still hard for us to follow in the footsteps of ancient masters," Zou says. "We were born in a more open world and with less restriction on our perspective."

That openness and freedom have significantly shaped Zou's style.

### From West to East

Born in Beijing in 1979, Zou grew up in Houhai before the area took on its current identity as a bar and restaurant street.

"I spent lots of happy times there. There were many former homes of Chi-

na's literati and politicians. Antique shops and art schools were always nearby," she says. "I loved walking along the lake at night and hearing piano recitals at the Chinese Conservatory of Music."

Nurtured by her surroundings, Zou became interested in Peking Opera, calligraphy and gongbi painting. Inspired by the figures of beautiful women painted on old calendars, Zou decided to pursue a career in painting. She spent 10 years learning to copy the shiniü style used on calendars before being accepted to the Beijing Painting Academy in 2001.

"I hadn't realized that Chinese paintings was at such a crossroads until I met my tutor, Lu Ping, that year," Zou says. "She told me to learn modern techniques from Western painting and blend them into my Chinese ink works."

After graduating from the Beijing Painting Academy, Zou studied abroad in Belgium and traveled around other European countries.

When she returned to China with her new series, it seems she had finally mastered Lu's instruction.

Zou's current art combines the mystery and elegance of Chinese painting with the realism and modernity of Western art and something else that's more personal.

### Female Perspective

Created in 2013, Zou's Jimiduo series displays the story of a young girl with a depressed face, a bird with a peacock tail and a colorful frog. The background tones and generous whitespace cause the pictures to give off an air of alienation and loneliness.

"I'm part of the first generation born under the One-Child Policy, so I didn't have many chances to play with other kids when I was little. What accompanied with me were toys and dolls. I had to play all the roles myself. Sometimes I was the mom and sometimes I was the rabbit," Zou says.

While Jimiduo is a self-portrait, Zou's Tentacle of Dream series created in the same year is more of a commentary on her general understanding of women in modern society.

Using figures of sleepy girls with flowing hair and birds with spread wings, the three-picture series expresses a peaceful and free atmosphere. For Zou, freedom and dreams are two things that women in China desire but can hardly obtain. Chinese women face many restrictions both now and in the past, and as a result their minds have been gradually closed to life's possibilities, Zou says.

"I used the flying hair to reflect women's mental activities and their desire for unconstrained dreams. People are most relaxed when they are asleep, and that's

when their imagination can run about without worry," she says.

### Future of Chinese Ink

Zou says the real problem facing modern Chinese painting is its narrow perspective.

"The division between genres is too strict. The result is that communication between them is essentially impossible since they are all split into different groups in advance," she says.

Zou advocates a solution expressed in her own work: opening minds.

"If Chinese paintings wants a promising future, it needs to become inclusive," she says. "This means doing more than copying existing styles of Chinese painting. The art needs to incorporate some modern techniques from abroad."

Apart from painting, Zou has cooperated with a Shanghai-based media firm to use her work in a TV series. She is also working on turning her creations into a series of derived products through the fashion industry.

"Painting is no longer a prestigious art that's reserved for upper class appreciation. It has merged with the fashion industry and mass culture. I think it's a sign of historical progress," Zou says. ■

blog.sina.com.cn/chriszouzou  
weibo.com/chriszouzou



# CINEMA



Photos by Douban.com

## French Film Depicts the Modern Chinese Family

BY DIAO DIAO

**A**fter rave reviews abroad, the Sino-French co-production *The Nightingale* has finally landed on the mainland. Not to be confused with the fairytale of the same name, *The Nightingale* tells the story of a modern Chinese family.

Zhu Zhigen is an old man who moves from the countryside to Beijing. His son Chongyi is the owner of a famous construction company who is too busy to take care of his daughter Renxing. Chongyi's wife Qianying is also a businesswoman who spends most of her time abroad.

When Renxing is almost lost in the market, Zhu Zhigen becomes furious with his son and the two stop talking. Chongyi's wife Qianying spends years trying to repair the relationship, but her marriage also suffers.

The family looks happy from the outside,



but internally it is in shambles.

But a turning point saves the family. Zhu Zhigen always remembered a promise to his dead wife to bring their nightingale back home and set it free in front of her grave. As both Chongyi and Qianying are busy trying to repair their marriage, Zhu Zhigen takes his granddaughter Renxing on the trip.

On the way, the grandfather and granddaughter encounter beautiful scenery and spectacular challenges. While the trip means a lot to Zhu Zhigen, it also helps Renxing to escape from the strained atmosphere of her city and home.

Director Philippe Muyl spent two years learning Chinese in Beijing to prepare for the film. The script was completed during this time.

French reviewers praised the film for capturing the situation now facing many Beijing families. The daughter serves as an anchor for the lonely grandfather while her parents are away trying to earn money and arrange their lives. ■

## The Jade King Explores Life in a Hui Family

BY DIAO DIAO

Hui writer Huo Da's 1998 novel *The Jade King* remains one of the most popular Chinese novels of the last 50 years. Building on a tradition of generational epics, the story tells the lives of three generations in a jade-cutting family.

The book opens with Han Ziqi as he studies jade carving from Liang Yiqing, the owner of a famous jade shop in ancient Beiping. The two devote three years to creating a jade statue of the hero Zheng He before a tragic tumble leaves Liang dead and the statue shattered.

Shunned by fellow jade workers, Han decides to continue working for the store while plotting his revenge.

Liang's surviving daughters, Junbi and Bingyu, represent two archetypes of women. Junbi is a straight-talking

and strict woman who knows nothing of culture while Bingyu is an educated dreamer who longs for pure love. Han eventually marries Junbi and has a son named Tianxing.

Shortly after executing his revenge and arresting control of the store, Han's life is interrupted by war with Japan. To protect his stones, Han leaves for England with a British businessman.

Bingyu, who was recently hurt by a relationship, opts to leave for England with Han. While there, she falls in love with a British man who is killed in a traffic accident. Feeling miserable, she turns to her brother-in-law for love and they have a daughter named Xinyue.

Upon their return to China, Junbi is furious and throws Bingyu out of the

family. Han asks for custody of Xinyue.

Years later, Xinyue, Bingyu's daughter, decides to attend Peking University to study Spanish. She falls in love with her teacher Chu Yanchao, but Junbi is adamantly opposed to their romance since Chu is not a Hui person. Junbi also forces her son apart from the woman he loves.

In the end, Xinyue succumbs to heart disease and leaves Chu heartbroken.

The story explores how religious belief affects one's life in Chinese society and the typical ups and downs of a large family. It also explores the three types of tragedy: romantic tragedy, social tragedy and destined tragedy.

For Chinese Muslims, the story is a reminder of the challenges often faced in love, culture and life. ■

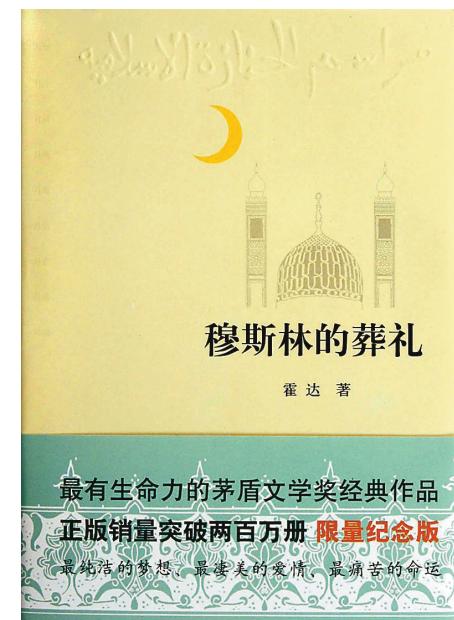


Photo by Douban.com



# LOCAL OUTINGS



Photo by zw-j.com



Photo by chinaculture.org



## Beijing's Best Private Museums

BY LYNNE WANG

You've seen all the magnificent royal relics at the capital's state-run Palace Museum and National Museum, but have you explored the capital's private collections?

Beijing has more than 20 independently run museums that offer a chance to experience cultural collections at a depth rarely encountered at the national level.

### Guanfu Museum

Guanfu Museum has the distinction of being China's first private museum. Since 1997, its collection has grown thanks to the continued effort of antiques connoisseur Ma Weidu.

Guanfu takes its name from a passage in Laozi's *Tao Te Ching*: "Wan wu bing zuo, wu yi guan fu," which means those who want to understand the world must study history. The museum offers antiques fans one such chance to explore ancient culture.

The spacious museum displays more than 1,000 antiques that Ma has collected since the 1980s. During that era, Beijing did not have an antiques market. Ma's collection has its roots in a semi-black market near Yuyuantan Park, which he passed every day on his commute to work.

Ma's collection is divided into halls of exquisite ceramics, classic furniture, ancient doors and windows, traditional crafts and oil paintings. Many of the pieces are so unusual that they can't be found in any national collection.

Guanfu's famous treasures include a drawing table made from rosewood and a pair of southern-style doors and windows that were delicately decorated with historic figures from *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*.

- ☛ 18 Jinnan Lu, Zhangwanfen, Dashanzi, Chaoyang
- ⌚ 9 am-5 pm (admission ends at 4 pm; closed Mondays at 3 pm)
- 💰 50 yuan
- 🚍 Take Subway Lines 2 or 13 to Dongzhimen Station. Follow Exit C. Transfer to Buses 688 or 418 and get off at Zhangwanfen.

### Cui Yongping's Shadow Puppetry Museum

The use of skin to create shadow puppets has its roots in the Han Dynasty (206 BC – AD 220), making it roughly 1,700 years older than arts like Peking Opera.

Skin shadow puppet performances make use of folk painting, sculpture and music. Cui Yongping's Shadow Puppetry Museum, which opened in 2004, is the best place to learn how these folk arts come together.

Located in a residential area of Tongzhou, the museum space was created by fusing three residential apartments. It houses more than 30,000 puppets collects from across the country.

Cui, now in his 70s, is a former artist and leader of the China Shadow Puppetry Troup. After retirement, Cui and his wife opened their private museum to promote and protect the endangered art.

There are seven halls in which visitors can explore the process of making a skin shadow puppet, how to conduct a performance and how China's puppetry tradition has evolved over time.

The end of the museum also has a small theater that seats 50 people where Cui and his wife put on shadow puppetry shows.

- ☛ Unit 4, Building 16, Jinqiao-huayuan, Majuqiao, Tongzhou
- ⌚ 9 am-noon; 2-5:30 pm
- 💰 30 yuan
- 🚍 Take the Subway Line 10 to Shilihe Station. Follow Exit B. Transfer to Bus 975 and get off at Majuqiaoyihao.

### Beijing Classic Car Museum

While most classic car museums only attract auto buffs, that's hardly the case at Beijing Classic Car Museum. The museum is more focused on interesting stories and brands than the technical abilities of each machine.

Built in 2009, the museum is owned by Luo Wen, a 59-year-old car enthusiast. Luo started his collection with a secondhand Poland Warsaw and spent his entire life expanding the collection. His private museum is a record of the auto industry's development in China.

The museum has collected more than 160 classic and antique cars including nearly every car produced domestically before the 1980s. The Red Flag series is the most impressive of the exhibition, as the cars enjoy a reputation for being China's best and a favorite of political leaders.

Special vehicles include the Red Flag used by Mao Zedong for military parades, the medical vehicle of Zhou Enlai and the daily auto for Nie Rongzhen.

- ☛ 19 Fengxiangyiyuan, Yangsong Zhen, Huairou
- ⌚ 9 am-4:30 pm
- 💰 50 yuan
- 🚍 Take the Subway Lines 2 or 13 to Dongzhimen Station. Follow Exit B. Transfer to Bus 916 and get off at Nanhua Shichang. Transfer to Bus 916 branch line and get off at Zhongying Jidi.



Photos by takupao.com.cn

# CLASSIFIEDS

## CULTURE

Ancient Taoist secrets to warm up your soul this winter

Join Alex Tan, TCM scholar and practitioner, in an introductory workshop to Traditional Chinese Medicine for preventative health, followed by an interactive Tai Chi demonstration with Master Liu. For lunch, Little Yard will serve an organic, home-cooked meal.

56 Sanduhe Village, Bohai Town, Huairou District  
www.littleyardbeijing.com

### Chinese Medicine and Tai Chi Retreat

November 7 marked Lidong, the traditional beginning of winter. Boost your health this season with some tips from traditional Chinese medicine practitioner Alex Tan. He will share basic techniques for improved sleeping and breathing that are guaranteed to boost your energy. After the workshop, Little Yard will serve a buffet lunch of organic meats and vegetables from local farms. In the afternoon, Liu will demonstrate tai chi across the river that runs through Sanduhe Village. By the time you return to Beijing, you will feel refreshed and energized!

Little Yard's cooking uses produce and meat from local farms and as little oil as possible. Its pork comes from nearby grain-fed pigs that are raised without antibiotics and growth hormones.

Wear clothing that is loose-fitting and warm and bring comfortable shoes for tai chi practice.

① 9:15 am - 3:30 pm, November 22  
② 230 yuan

Learn Mahjong At the Culture Yard

www.cultureyard.net

### Beginners' Mahjong Workshop

Mahjong is one of China's favorite pastimes. This beginners' training session is followed directly by open gaming time.

As an immensely popular game of skill, Mahjong requires both tactics and calculation. The basic rules are easy to learn, and with a little bit of stealing, strategy and luck, the four-player game is very exciting.

Culture Yard's local Beijing experts will pass on their knowledge during our training session. They will also share the game's history, its popularity in modern

culture and tips for winning.

- ① 10 am - noon, November 23
- ④ Culture Yard, 10 Shique Hutong, Dongcheng (Beixinqiao Line 5, Exit C, 400 meters to the left)
- ④ 80 yuan (Culture Yard Students 40 yuan) includes tea and coffee

AN EVENING OF ART, MUSIC AND WARM DRINK  
一个艺术、音乐、热饮的傍晚  
*Get Cozy* 暖一暖

Saturday November 22nd 9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
230 rmb includes lunch, tea and transportation  
Email us by Nov. 16th to reserve a spot as space is limited.  
info@littleyardbeijing.com 010-6067-0229

JIANGHU BAR 江湖酒吧  
7 DONGMIANHUA HUTONG  
JIAODAOKEI NANDAJIE  
东城区交道口南大街东棉花胡同7号

ALL PROCEEDS RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE CHI HENG FOUNDATION  
所有善款将用于智行基金会艾滋遗孤项目  
Chi Heng Foundation

### Get Cozy: Art, Music and Warm Drinks

Come enjoy a candle-lit evening of art, music and warm drinks and a chance to purchase mementos from the charity sale or win a prize from the raffle. As we cozy up together to raise funds for the Chi Heng Foundation, you will be in for an evening of excitement! And don't forget to come in your coziest outfit – the "Best Dressed" prize could be yours!

- ① 4 - 9 pm, November 23
- ④ Jianghu Bar, 7 Dongmianhua Hutong, Dongcheng

## COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving

### Blue Bridge Thanksgiving Creativity Second-Hand Fair (The First Stage)

Bring your kids and join Blue Bridge at its Thanksgiving Creativity Second-Hand Fair. Each family acts as a "mini shop" to try and sell its products within a limited time. Blue Bridge's Social Emotional teachers will teach kids how to communicate with "customers" and how to make pretty arts and crafts. All money made during the day will be donated to a charity group. Children taped up from head to toe.

must be four or older and accompanied by a parent. Space is limited to 10 families.

- ① 8:30 - noon, November 22
- ④ Blue Bridge Lido Center, Shop 118, Andersen Garden Upper East, 6 Dongsihuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang
- ④ Free

## DINING



### THE SCHOOLHOUSE

#### Schoolhouse Partner's Table Dinners

The Schoolhouse Partner's Table dinners showcase seasonal and local ingredients from the gardens of The Schoolhouse and its neighboring producers.

Menus are created by Chef Jonson Liu with assistance from The Schoolhouse's sustainability programs team and are not published in advance. Each meal includes four courses – a soup, entree, salad and dessert – with vegetarian choices available for each.

Singing Glasses from Schoolhouse Art Glass provide some of the best wine and beverage tastings.

- ① 7 - 9:30 pm, November 22
- ④ The Schoolhouse, Mutianyu Village, Huairou
- ④ 360 yuan

## NIGHTLIFE

NEONWHITE  
UNIQUE ANY OTHER WHITE PARTY

MUSIC DANNY & EL-MAR SATURDAY NOV 22nd 50 RMB @ 8MM  
UV LIGHTS - FACE & BODY PAINTING - WHITE & NEON TAPE MODELS  
8MM

www.nbnnoise.com

### Neon White

A year of amazing parties has brought Neon White to this fantastic next step. Inspired by Black Tape Project's use of electrical tape to create entire outfits, NB Noise is creating Beijing's very own "White & Neon Tape Project" with Go-Go dancers taped up from head to toe.

Face and body paint artists will paint dancers, models and guest alike with elegant and stylish white designs with touches of neon. High-powered UV cannons will illuminate even the darkest recesses of the venue, so wear your brightest outfits. Tape is available for guests who want to experiment with some light bondage of their own.

Music will be provided by the DJ duo Danny and El-mar, with groovy a selection of the sexiest deep, vocals, tech and progressive house. Come join them on their latest adventure – one of the highlights of the year!

- ① 10 pm - 4 am, November 22
- ④ 8MM, WF1 - WF2, Landmark Towers, Building 2, 8 Dongsihuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang
- ④ 50 yuan

## SPORTS



### Gubeikou Winding Dragon Great Wall Hike and Family Meal

Gubeikou Winding Dragon Great Wall is one of the best sections of the Great Wall for a hike. Viewed from a distance, the wall is like a giant dragon curving its way along the mountain peaks.

Hikers will start the journey from the ancient town of Gubeikou. The nearby section of the wall is completely untouched and authentic. Hikers will see some amazing panoramas that make for great photographs.

The group will walk on the wall for about 3 hours with plenty of time to stop and look around or take pictures. After descending from the wall, the group will follow a mountain trail to a waiting bus. Lunch will be served at a local farmer's guest house after the hike.

- ① 8 am - 6 pm, November 22
- ④ China Travelers, Chaoyang
- ④ 450 yuan (members and students save 10 percent)

## YACHT



www.hackerboat.com



# CANTONESE STYLE



Guangshi sausage and chicken flavor baozaifan

## Canton's Popular Clay Pot Rice

BY DIAO DIAO

Baozaifan is one of the most famous and common Cantonese foods to appear on ordinary tables. Guangdong province and Hong Kong have more than 20 variations of the dish made with sausage, mushroom, chicken and duck.

Also known as wabaofan, the name is a reference to both the preparation and the container used for cooking. The rice used in baozaifan is cooked halfway in a clay bao before being mixed with other ingredients. The ceramic pot is slow to transfer heat, which helps to seal in the nutrition and make the rice cook better. Good baozaifan is judged on two impor-

tant factors: the juice poured over top of the rice and the yellow, burned grains on the bottom that are called guoba.

The best juice should be bright and dark, and it should be the main flavoring agent in the dish. As for the guoba, its taste changes depending on the texture of the pot and how the cook controls the flame.

Traditional baozaifan is made of long grain simiao rice cooked to a medium tenderness. It's better to choose thin and long rice because it absorbs the smell of the ingredients and seasoning as well as the water.

Baozaifan has been popular for nearly



Mushroom baozaifan Photo by baike.so.com



Pork baozaifan Photo by nipic.com

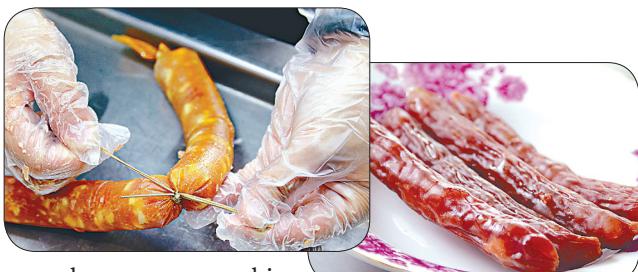
2,000 years. The earliest references to it appear in the Lijizhushu, a history book that describes many ancient cooking methods.

In the years since, many cities have developed their own styles of baozaifan that have found popularity across the country. ■

### MAKE YOUR OWN WITH THIS RECIPE

## Learn to Make Cantonese Sausage

BY DIAO DIAO



#### Ingredients:

- 5,000g pork
- 75g salt
- 75g sugar
- 50g baijiu
- 20g sausage casing Shisanxiang (blended seasoning)
- funnel

#### The Steps:

1. Clean the inside and outside of the sausage casing.
2. Pour water through it to check for leaks.
3. Cut the pork into small squares like fingernails.
4. Add salt, sugar and shisanxiang to the pork. Stir.
5. Put the funnel in the sausage casing and put the stuffing through the funnel. Tie a knot at the other end.
6. Use your hand to push the stuffing to the bottom while adding more through the funnel. Be careful not to break the casing.
7. Tie a knot every 10 cm in case any section leaks.
8. When finished stuffing, check the casing for air bubbles. Stab any with a needle to release the air.
9. Hang the raw sausage in a well-ventilated area to let it dry.
10. Store the sausage in a freezer when it becomes hard to the touch. Remove it and cook when you want to eat.

Cantonese sausage, known as guangshi sausage, is a common ingredient in Cantonese food. The sausage can be used to make baozaifan, cooked with different vegetables or eaten alone.

The traditional Cantonese style calls for a lot of sugar, but northern families tend to prefer salt. While most people in Beijing buy guangshi sausage at the supermarket, many prefer to make it at home.

## Acheng Chaoyue Dapaidang

BY DIAO DIAO

Acheng Chaoyue Dapaidang is one of Beijing's most popular Cantonese restaurants that specializes in baozaifan, shao'e and all kinds of porridge. Its authentic taste comes guaranteed by the owner, a Guangdong province native.

Baozaifan is Acheng's most popular dish with most customers favoring the beef and lettuce or the guangshi sausage flavors. The baozaifan comes with just the right amount of juice and the perfect balance of sweet and salty flavors. The rice is long and smells good and the guoba at the bottom of the pot tastes crispy but not burned.

The restaurant's shao'e is also popular. The goose meat looks like Beijing duck but tastes salty and sweet. Its chashao has a similar taste.

Acheng's porridge is especially popular during the winter. Its most ordered flavors are crab and shrimp. Using fresh seafood to flavor porridge is typical of Chaozhou cooking, and Acheng's rich pots come with enough to serve three people.

The restaurant's menu includes many other Cantonese and Chaozhou dishes. Prices are a bit high, but the portions are fairly large. ■



Shrimp porridge



Guangshi sausage flavor baozaifan



Shao'e

Photos by Dianping.com

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